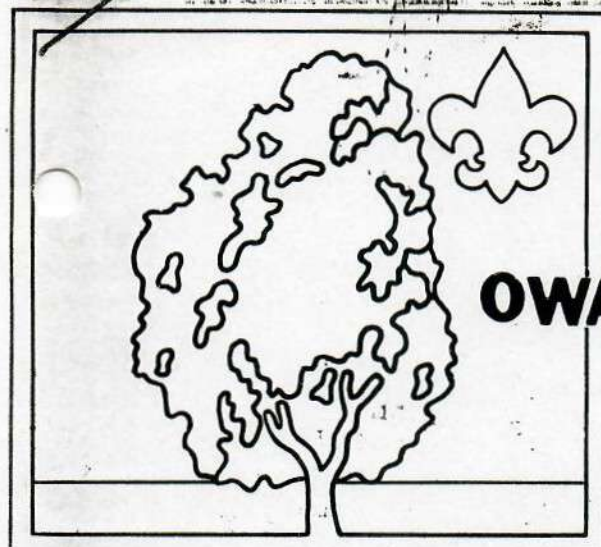




THE TREE

OWASIPPE SCOUT RESERVATION

WOLVERINE NORTH

"We'll be great in '78," is John Brown's response to the announced closing of North for the 1977 camping season. North will replace Sauger Lake as the ghost camp; Dixie is scheduled for mothballs in 1978. The reason for the closings, according to Brown, are needed repairs on the boat docks and swimming pools. New pool filter systems and rebuilt boat docks are scheduled for the Wolverine camps in '78 and '79.

More than half of North's staff is spending soggy evenings in the pool under the tutelage of Professor Nick Godbey, who's teaching Red Cross Senior Life-saving. One Godbey pupil, a shaggy sea-horse known as "Duke," displaces nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ of the pool water with a ferocious butterfly stroke that would send "Jaws" reeling into a mad panic. "He's beating the water to a pulp," bemoans Godbey, "I'm forced to sound a 'Small Craft Warning' whenever he enters the pool."

North's political pulse is throbbing from the recent election of Jim Nothnagel to the Presidency of the camp's 4-H club. The new president-elect, a favorite son, says the landslide victory (23-0), "puts me in hog heaven." Asked if he

would buy new bib overalls for the inauguration, Nothnagel replied, "What for? That would be like putting spats on a pig." The agrarian-minded Nothnagel lists his favorite hobbies as "tractors, hams, and alfalfa."

Mark Rainedeer, whose red nose doubles as a beacon for star hikes and as a beam for Santa Claus, ushered in North's Yuletide spirit. Christmas week continued with a birthday party for Rusty Martino, whose sweet 16 birthday wishes were answered with thoughtful gifts from the staff: 2 telephone books. "Now I can sit and eat with the grown ups," gushed the proud teenager.

Christmas Day climaxed with North's annual gala sporting event: the prestigious Pit Mung Medley Relay. A new world record was set by North's flash bucket brigade and coach, Chris Bury, commented on his team's smashing success, "We've been perfecting our training techniques for months, but I think the real reason for our success lies in the stabilizer/neutralizer compound we used in place of Gator-Ade." Elsewhere in sports, North continues its undefeated streak in water polo; no team has yet scored a goal against North's impenetrable defense.

Chris Bury

INTRODUCTION TO OWASIPPE

After the numbing effect of the time lag over the Atlantic, the heady New York atmosphere and the thirty hour journey on a full Greyhound coach via Philadelphia and Detroit, it came as a strange sensation when the driver shouted, "Whitehall." The first reaction, after listening to an hour long boring lecture of how to desert from the American Army in Australia, was an unconcerned "Uh." However, the very Lancashire thunderstorm which greeted my arrival did wonders (at waking me up) (taking the place of the promised welcoming party) and the first shelter I hit on jumping off the coach into a puddle was a rotten wooden staircase supported by a notice, "No Loitering," so I loitered there for long enough to establish that there was to be no red carpet at least for the present. I then asked a local for the nearest telephone and, detecting a certain strangeness in my voice, he directed me to Pitkin's, where everyone must take their problems and soon a Moses-like figure was greeting me to the camp and throwing me a can of what you can't mention when the scouts are around. After chasing a few forest fires, we were soon in "the Galleon" for the introductory session, just to let me know that I had arrived, and all too soon it was a rude awakening at 7:15 the following morning.

You might call the first day's work...different. Laying off the electricity cable through the swamp from the museum to the Central and floating a pier across into Bass Lake. There could be no better introduction to camp life, with everyone making me feel at home.

After catching Stuart's sand between my toes and the breeze of Owaspippe Lake on my first Saturday night, I moved on to Stuart on a more permanent and sober basis the following morning, after a first and last breakfast in bed. We won't go into that any further!

Now, in my cabin with holes in the floorboards, life is back to "the old routine" of rising at 7:59, showing the scouts the English way to give artificial resuscitation, tie REEF knots, set a compass and get certified (amongst others!). "You must do it the American way," I am told. Indian Lore was also something we never went into in England. Most of the lads are interesting to talk to, but it gets a bit much when I am asked to attempt an American accent, or to sing our National Anthem, "Rule Britannia," or "Lord of Hope and Glory."

Adjusting to the different lingo was perhaps the major problem. The food names during my first week at Food Prep left me eating from a lucky dip and some of the expressions left me behind, but, after all, we both speak the English language in one form or another, and all seems to be working out. A few rounds of "Glkley Mosr Baht Hat," "Leaving of Liverpool," "Wild Rover," etc., keeps everyone happy.

Perhaps the basic Scouting skills are the same in both England and the States - both on and off the Reservation but Owaspippe has its own way. Perhaps that is the manner to sum up Owaspippe.....different.

Derek Fort

THE BIG ROUNDUP

Chaplain Dale breathlessly reported to Director Ed and Special Programs Bill that he had just spotted seven horses heading North on Cwasippe Road. A quick conference between the trio and off Ed headed, mounted on his trusty mobile one companion. A quick stop to pick up a professional round-upper at the Big O Corral and quickly joined by the Ad Center bounty hunter "Stingy" John with his sidekicks Profit Center Mark and Info Tim. Off they headed - North on Russell following the tracks of the stampeding herd - at the Y it was decision time. Ed's good at that so North they continued up Cwasippe Road. "The Round-upper" Tom lost the tracks, but "Stingy" John soon found them headed into Robert Crown. Ranger Ray with his outriders, Orv and Bog, soon joined the chase. The Crown Scouts shouted at the posse, "They went that-a-way" so off the chasers went towards Site 10. Here they found "Trucker" Ted and "Sundeck" Larry and his crew of water nymphs with a 3600' coil of rope. They were gonna lasso the whole bunch. Were, until ole "Boss," the lead horse up and stomped on Mike Consentino's foot. So over the hills the posse tore and still no horses in sight. Ed asked, "How can we follow tracks in this stuff," to which an unnamed member of the posse exclaimed - "easy, just look for horse!"

The radio crackled and Ranger Ray was heard to say "cut 'em off at the pass!" What pass said Ed?

Finally, they were sighted headed down Raymond Road going East at a hefty clip. Smooth maneuvering by the posse finally brought the thundering stampede to a halt. Actually they just got tired of running and decided to graze in a farmer's front

yard. Some fifteen miles from the corral, the big roundup had come to a thankful halt. Saddle sore and more wise were the trusty posse. Soon their relief arrived. The group to ride the unruly mounts back - here they were - five Family Camp greenhorns and a C.I.T. Like thunder the sound came as Ed and his trusty companions rode off. "10 4 base it's all 10 - 10!!"

Ed Black

WANTED

Employment for the 1977 Camp Season. Experience: 1973 - Commissioner's Aid - a sure fire hit. 1974 - Dining Hall Steward - a real hit. Present position: Village Blacksmith - a red hot smash! Inquiries will be handled by: J. Brown, c/o Canoe Central or the Blacksmith Shop.

FROM PRODUCTION

Anyone wishing to submit an article for the final issue of The Tree, please have all articles in by Monday, August 16. Any articles submitted after this date will not be printed. Thank you!

THANKS

A special "thanks" to John Kosik of Camp Robert Crown, who completed the new visitor direction sign located adjacent to the Information Booth at Ad Center. The sign was originally started by Jim Radloff of Blackhawk, several years ago and we thank Jim for his work also. Stop by and see the new sign.

ACA RATING

Owasippe was inspected by Paul Gibson of the National Office of the American Camping Association, and rated as an ACA Accredited Camp. Mr. Gibson was especially impressed with Food Prep, the Blacksmith Shop of the Heritage Trail, the Horse Corral, and Wolverine North Aquatic program. Well done staff!

WELCOME WHITE LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The 65th annual White Lake Chamber of Commerce meeting will be held at Food Prep on Monday, August 9. Members of the Chamber of Commerce will be entertained by the Jr. Orchestra of Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp prior to the banquet. Members of the Blackhawk staff are providing pre meal delicacies and a special skit saluting the business persons of the White Lake community.

IT'S TIME TO DREAM

If you've wandered by the Ad Center and seen Ed Black staring out his office window at the oaks - he hasn't flipped, he's just dreaming up new ideas for Owasippe '77. The best program ideas for the next season start forming in our minds now. You are invited to participate in "dreaming." If you have a gem of an idea you'd like to see take shape as part of the camp program, jot it down and stop by and see Ed. Many of our successful programs and services have started this way. Ed's already talking about the "Igloo" Outpost of '77!